

STATE SENATOR . MICHAEL PRUSI . 38TH DISTRICT

# Prusi Press Release

P. O. Box 30036 • Lansing • Michigan • 48909-7536 • 517-373-7840 • Fax: 517-373-3932  
E-mail: [senmprusi@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:senmprusi@senate.michigan.gov) • [www.senate.state.mi.us/dem/SD38](http://www.senate.state.mi.us/dem/SD38)



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**Thursday, December 9, 2004**

**Contact: Sen. Mike Prusi**  
**Phone: 517/373-7840**  
**Toll Free: 866/305-2038**

## **PRUSI COMPROMISE SENT TO GOVERNOR**

*Iron County demonstration project to continue, judges move to full-time status*

**LANSING** –State Senator Mike Prusi (D-Ishpeming) recently hammered out a compromise between House and Senate leadership to include full-time probate judges for Baraga, Iron, and Ontonagon Counties. Currently, the probate judges in these counties are part-time. The compromise will allow the 5-year judicial demonstration project in Iron County, established in 1999, to continue. By creating these full-time judgeships, the legislature is helping to alleviate an increasing caseload on an already busy system.

“The demonstration project in Iron County has been providing essential services; it was necessary to ensure the program’s survival,” Senator Prusi said. “Residents of the Western U.P. will see improved services as a result of this compromise.”

Effective January 2, 2007, Senate Bill 823 will convert nine probate judges from around the state to full-time status. Other counties benefiting from the compromise include Alcona, Benzie, Missaukee, Montmorency, Oscoda, and Presque Isle. In addition to local input, the State Court Administrative Office (SCAO) has recommended this course of action for all nine counties. Governor Granholm is expected to sign the Prusi compromise in the coming days.

“Compromises of this nature require strong leadership at the top,” said Senator Prusi. “I am grateful that Governor Granholm and her Administration worked with my colleagues to ensure that residents received the representation and services they deserve.”

###

*Mike Prusi serves as Democratic Vice Chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee. He represents the 38<sup>th</sup> Senate District, which includes all Upper Peninsula counties west of Luce County.*